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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/663,365

09/15/2003

Joerg Beringer

09282.0014-00000

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10/03/2006

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EXAMINER

LONG, ANDREA NATAE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/663,365

Applicant(s)

BERINGER ET AL.

Examiner

Andrea N. Long

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2003 and 09 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 September 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 02/09/2004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 have been examined with a priority date of December 23, 2002.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. US Applications are not appropriate to be listed on the 1449 Form. The US applications listed have all been considered, but will not be included on the front page of the patent, should the application become a patent. If any of these applications are related to the present application, then they should be listed in the specification, along with their updated status.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s): Figure 1 reference character 150 is not mentioned in the description. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement-drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement

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Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the examiner does not accept the changes, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Defining a Resource Template for
Searching/Locating Relevant Resources.

5. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

On page 1, paragraph [0013], line 2, “forth” should be replaced with “for the”.

On page 1, paragraph [0013], line 3, “which,” should be inserted between
“information” and “refers”.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

6. Claims 10-17 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claims 10-17 recite the phrase “to a cause a machine”. The word “a” before
“causes” should to be deleted.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Coiera et al. (Published April 21, 2005, claiming priority of PCT filed November 20, 2002) herein after "Coiera".

As to claim 1, Coiera discloses *a method comprising defining a set of attributes associated with at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053] Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources); *associating a set of constraints with the attributes, the constraints corresponding to a context* (p. 3 paragraph [0055] Fig. 6 → Coiera uses parameters as constraints for the attributes in a profile); *determining that a resource matches the set of attributes and constraints* (p.4 paragraph [0062] → Coiera discloses a search engine which uses the profile with which attributes and parameters are stored); *and displaying the resource as a selectable resource*

graphical object on a user device (p. 4 paragraph [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that the results are displayed by the interface).

As to claim 2, Coiera teaches wherein *defining the set of attributes comprises receiving information that defines an object class of the at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0041], Fig 5 reference character 104 → Coiera discloses using a profile window and an advanced window search which allows a user to select searches which relate to a specific profile of attributes and parameters).

As to claim 3, Coiera teaches *receiving information that defines an attribute associated with the object class* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053], Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources).

As to claim 4, Coiera teaches *receiving information from a user device with a graphical display having an active area for the input of the information* (p.3 paragraph [0045], Fig 6 → Coiera discloses by his figures the fields that have user input which would be inputted with a keyboard or selected with a mouse).

As to claim 5, Coiera teaches *displaying a selectable template graphical object on a graphical display device prior to the determining that a resource matches, the template graphical object representing an active area associated with the defined*

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resource (Fig. 7 reference characters 210, 211 → Coiera discloses in the figure the user input fields which are used to collect search criteria from the user before implementing a search).

As to claim 6, Coiera teaches *defining the set of attributes comprises determining the set of attributes based on a profile of a user's interaction with a user device* (p.3 paragraphs [0045], [0054] → Coiera discloses the attributes correspond to a profile which can be saved for future uses and that the user can search keywords which are entered or selected by the user).

As to claim 7, the Examiner is interpreting, *receiving a selection of the resource template*, as receiving a selection from the resource template being the results from the search of the resource template, and *executing an application associated with the found resource*, which is taught by Coiera (p. 4 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses displaying the search results in which the results may include a link which would execute the opening if the full document).

As to claim 8, the applicant discloses *the resource templates may provide assistance within a guided procedure by limiting the set of proposed values to the pre-defined constraints*. Coiera teaches *executing an application comprises executing the application with a guided procedure workflow* (Fig. 5 reference characters 100 & 104, Fig 6 reference characters 108 & 200 → Coiera discloses the guided procedure of

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limiting the constraints of an attribute for example "source" In Fig 6 has limited constraints for selection by the user).

As to claim 9, Coiera teaches *wherein the resource comprises a datum* (p. 3 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that more detail information can be retrieved by selecting a link).

As to claim 10, Coiera discloses an *article comprising a machine-readable medium including machine-executable instruction* (p. 2 paragraphs [0033], [0034] → Coiera discloses a computing system to implement his searching system) *operative to cause a machine to define a set of attributes associated with at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053] Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources); *associate a set of constraints with the attributes, the constraints corresponding to a context* (p. 3 paragraph [0055] Fig. 6 → Coiera uses parameters as constraints for the attributes in a profile); *determine that a resource matches the set of attributes and constraints* (p.4 paragraph [0062] → Coiera discloses a search engine which uses the profile with which attributes and parameters are stored); *and display the resource as a selectable resource graphical object on a user device* (p. 4 paragraph [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that the results are displayed by the interface).

As to claim 11, Coiera teaches wherein *instructions operative to cause a machine to define the set of attributes comprises instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information that defines an object class of the at least one resource* (p. 3 paragraph [0041], Fig 5 reference character 104 → Coiera discloses using a profile window and an advanced window search which allows a user to select searches which relate to a specific profile of attributes and parameters).

As to claim 12, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information that defines an attribute associated with the object class* (p. 3 paragraph [0045] through [0053], Fig. 6 → Coiera discloses that the profile consists of attributes such as date, duration, etc, which is used to search for resources which he calls sources).

As to claim 13, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information comprises instructions operative to cause a machine to receive information from a user device with a graphical display having an active area for the input of the information* (p.3 paragraph [0045], Fig 6 → Coiera discloses by his figures the fields that have user input which would be inputted with a keyboard or selected with a mouse).

As to claim 14, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to display a selectable template graphical object on a graphical display device prior to the*

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determining that a resource matches, the template graphical object representing an active area associated with the defined resource (Fig. 7 reference characters 210, 211 → Coiera discloses in the figure the user input fields which are used to collect search criteria from the user before implementing a search).

As to claim 15, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to define the set of attributes comprises instructions operative to cause a machine to determine the set of attributes based on a profile of a user's interaction with a user device (p.3 paragraphs [0045], [0054] → Coiera discloses the attributes correspond to a profile which can be saved for future uses and that the user can search keywords which are entered or selected by the user).*

As to claim 16, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to receive a selection of the resource template, as receiving a selection from the resource template being the results from the search of the resource template, and executing an application associated with the found resource (p. 4 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses displaying the search results in which the results may include a link which would execute the opening if the full document).*

As to claim 17, Coiera teaches *instructions operative to cause a machine to execute an application comprises instructions operative to cause a machine to execute the application with a guided procedure workflow (Fig. 5 reference characters 100 &*

104, Fig 6 reference characters 108 & 200 → Coiera discloses the guided procedure of limiting the constraints of an attribute for example "source" In Fig 6 has limited constraints for selection by the user). Note the discussion above in claim 8 about defining a guided procedure.

As to claim 18, Coiera teaches *wherein the resource comprises a datum* (p. 3 paragraphs [0063], [0064] → Coiera discloses that more detail information can be retrieved by selecting a link).

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Nikolovska et al (US Patent 6,473,751 B1) discloses a user interface for querying and displaying records, with profiles that can be saved for future use. Leal (US Patent 6,189,003 B1) discloses a system and method for creating a search template to locate relevant information in a business directory. Hill (Yahoo! for Dummies) discloses a search engine template that searches for relevant resources based on inputted attributes.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea N. Long whose telephone number is 571-270-1055. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs 7:30 am to 5:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Andrea N. Long
09/20/2006


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